



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/352,951	07/14/1999	MASAHITO OHE	503.33612CX1	2825

20457 7590 08/13/2002

ANTONELLI TERRY STOUT AND KRAUS
SUITE 1800
1300 NORTH SEVENTEENTH STREET
ARLINGTON, VA 22209

EXAMINER

WU, SHEAN CHIU

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1756

DATE MAILED: 08/13/2002

15

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AS-15

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/352,951

Applicant(s)

OHE ET AL.

Examiner

Shean C Wu

Art Unit

1756

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 May 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 6-15 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4 and 5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Pri rity under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____. 6) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 1756

DETAILED ACTION

1. The indicated allowability of claims 5 and 7 are withdrawn in view of the new rejection

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for the usage of the liquid crystal composite in the present device, does not reasonably provide enablement for other usage such as display device cited in Dir (US 4,506,956). The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. Claims 4-5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claimed liquid crystal composite material is indefinite because the ingredient in liquid crystal composite material is missing.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dir (US 4,506,956).

The reference discloses a liquid crystal cell including two transparent, insulating substrates arranged in parallel and each with a confronting surface bearing at least one transparent electrode, a layer of nematic liquid crystal material having liquid crystal molecules parallel to the substrates, said layer being contained between the insulating substrates with said liquid crystal molecules being gradually twisted between the substrates, the cell being capable of transmitting light there through in the vicinity of the electrodes upon the application of an electric field across the layer when a potential difference of appropriate magnitude is applied between the electrodes. The reference further discloses that the liquid crystal material has high resistivity ($> 10^{10}$ ohm cm), which is within the claimed range of the present invention. See col. 3, second paragraph and claim 1. Also, see *In re Pearson*, the terms merely setting forth intended use for, or a property inherent in, an otherwise old composition do not differentiate claimed composition from those known to prior art (181 USPQ 641). Also, accordingly, claims drawn to a new method of using either an old or "obvious" composition, wherein the method has unobvious beneficial or useful effects, have been found patentable even

Art Unit: 1756

though the composition itself could not be patented. *In re Shetty*, (566 F.2d 81, 195 USPQ 753 C.C.P.A. 1977), the case states that mere recitation of new use for old composition does not render composition patentable. Therefore, the reference anticipates the claimed material.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 4 and 5 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 1-3 and 8-15 are allowed.

9. Claim 6 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shean C Wu whose telephone number is 703-308-3956. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30 -6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Huff can be reached on 703-308-2464. The fax phone numbers for the

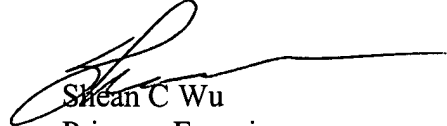
Application/Control Number: 09/352,951

Page 5

Art Unit: 1756

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-306-34293057718 for regular communications and 703-872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.



Shean C Wu
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1756

scw

August 12, 2002